

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ACDA-05 ISO-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

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FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4927

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 4126

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, WTO, HU

SUBJ: VISIT OF HUNGARIAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO MOSCOW

1. PARTY DAILY NEPSZABADSAG DEC 24 GAVE UNUSUALLY SKIMPY COVERAGE TO FOREIGN MINISTER FRIGYES PUJA'S RETURN TO BUDAPEST. PAPER MERELY REPORTED THAT PUJA HAD RETURNED EVENING BEFORE AND THAT HE WAS MET AT AIRPORT BY HIS NUMBER ONE DEPUTY JOSZEF MARJAI AND SOVIET CHARGE B. D. SEVEKIN.

2. HOWEVER, MTI/TASS DISPATCH IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY NEWS WAS SOMEWHAT MORE FORTHCOMING. IT SAID, PUJA, TOGETHER WITH SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO "HAD EXAMINED FUTHER STEPS TOWARDS DEEPENING PROCESS OF RELAXATION ON EUROPEAN CONTINENT" AND THAT "HE HAD ALSO DISCUSSED A
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NUMBER OF OUTSTANDING INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS." PAPER

ALSO REPORTS THAT AT DINNER GIVEN FOR PUJA GROMYKO HAD SAID "SOVIET UNION HAS RESOLVED TO ADVANCE PROCESS OF RELAXATION OF TENSION AND FOR THIS PURPOSE TO DO EVERYTHING IT CAN TO FACILITATE BY PRACTICAL DEEDS COOPERATION ON THE EUROPEAN CONTINENT AND IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD." JOINT TASS/MTI DISPATCH SAYS PUJA REPLIED THAT TASK NOW IS TO REDOUBLE EFFORTS TO DEEPEN RELAXATION AND TO COUNTER ENEMIES OF SOCIALIST COUNTRIES INCLUDING MAOIST.

3. COMMENT: WE HAVE STRONG REASONS FOR BELIEVING THAT JANOS PETRAN, FORMERLY GOH REPRESENTATIVE AT MBFR TALKS IN VIENNA AND NOW CSCE COORDINATOR IN FOREIGN OFFICE, WENT TO MOSCOW WITH PUJA. PRESS, HOWEVER, MAKES NO REFERENCE TO THOSE WHO MAY HAVE ACCOMPANIED PUJA TO MOSCOW. IF, IN FACT, IT TURNS OUT THAT PETRAN WAS IN MOSCOW WITH PUJA THIS COULD MEAN THAT, INTER ALIA SUBJECTS DISCUSSED RELATE TO BILATERAL SECURITY MATTERS AFFECTING HUNGARY, E.G., SALT, MBFR, INCLUDING NATO'S MOST RECENT PROPOSAL. THERE IS CURRENTLY MUCH SPECULATION IN DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES HERE THAT GOH MAY BE UNDER SOVIET PRESSURE TO CONCLUDE NOW MUTUAL DEFENSE TREATY SIMILAR TO ONES RECENTLY DRAWN UP WITH GDR AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA.
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